

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 TRSE-00 MCT-01 SSM-03 IO-13 SNM-05 DEAE-00
/099 W
-----073982 282019Z /75

P 281950Z JUN 78
FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 733
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL QUEBEC PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 1305

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PEFR, AG, CA
SUBJECT: L'AFFAIRE ZEGHAR

REF: ALGIERS 1891

1. IN QUEBEC IT IS "L'AFFAIRE DALILA" OR L'AFFAIRE MASCHINO."
DESPITE ENORMOUS COVERAGE OF STORY IN BOTH ANGLOPHONE AND FRANCOPHONE
MEDIA (PRESS AND TV) HERE, ZEGHAR'S NAME ALMOST UNKNOWN AS MANY
REFERENCES ARE SIMPLY TO "HER BROTHER". EMPHASIS HERE HAS BEEN ON
SOAP OPERA ASPECTS OF YOUNG WIFE TAKEN FROM HUSBAND (COMPLETE WITH
TEXTS OF LETTERS AND TELEPHONE CALL), FRONT-PAGED WITH KX. STORY
HAS BEEN PLAYED TO HILT, EVEN WHEN THERE NOTHING NEW TO REPORT,
EXCEPT BY LE DEVOIR WHICH MORE CONSERVATIVE IN COVERAGE.

2. POLITICAL FACET OF STORY HAS REVOLVED NOT REPEAT NOT AROUND
ZEGHAR'S POSITION IN ALGERIA BUT FACT THAT, DESPITE OFFICIAL STATE-
MENTS OF CONCERN, NEITHER FEDERAL NOR PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
APPARENTLY DOING MUCH CONSTRUCTIVE ABOUT THE MATTER. GOC HAS
NOTED THAT IT CANNOT "PROTECT" A NONCITIZEN AND QUEBEC GOVERNMENT
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CONTINUES TO "STUDY" WHETHER THERE IS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO
WARRANT BRINGING CRIMINAL CHARGES. LA PRESSE ALSO CARRIED ITEM
DATELINED PARIS TO EFFECT AMBASSADOR PELLETIER HAD MADE QUICK
TRIP TO OTTAWA TO CONSULT ON MATTER. SUCH ITEMS FALL ON INSIDE
PAGES. HUMAN INTEREST ASPECT IS THE ATTENTION-GRABBER. WE DO
NOT RECALL ANY EDITORIAL COMMENT ON SUBJECT.

3. LA PRESS HAS ALSO GIVEN CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO DALILA
MASCHINO'S FATHER-IN-LAW, JOURNALIST IN PARIS, WHO HAS
APPARENTLY MADE PRESS WAVES THERE, REPEATED HERE. AS NOTED ABOVE,
HOWEVER, ALGERIAN PRINCIPLES HAVE BEEN PRETTY WELL IGNORED.
HARPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, DRUG TRAFFIC, KIDNAPPING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation History:
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PINT, PEPR, AG, CA, (ZEGHAR, RACHID)
To: STATE ALGIERS
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